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Central Intelligence Agency



Executive Registry

Washington, D. C. 20505

21 January 1986

The Honorable George P. Shultz The Secretary of State Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear George:

I was pleased last November when the President set a thirty-year publication goal for the Foreign Relations of the United States series, and I want to do everything in my power to help achieve this objective.

As you requested in your recent letter, I have designated two senior officers to represent CIA at the interagency meeting Ron Spiers will convene in February: Dr. J. Kenneth McDonald, Chief of the History Staff in my office; and Chief of the Classification Review Division in the Directorate of Administration. In fact, Dr. McDonald has already been in touch with your Historian, Dr. Slany, on this project.

We take seriously our relatively small, but unique, role in helping the Department of State prepare this distinguished series, and I assure you of my full support.

Yours.

Director of Central Intelligence

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Remarks To 18: Please continue to take the lead in this matter (ER 86-4451, Presidential memo refers), coordinate with 17, and prepare response notifying State of our representative(s) to IG.

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1986

Dear Bill:

On November 12, 1985 the President directed that concerned departments and agencies take necessary action to assure preparation and publication of the authoritative historical foreign affairs record at thirty years after the event in the Department of State's Foreign Relations of the United States series. Specifically, he asked me to ensure that the record of the Eisenhower administration through 1960 be published by 1990. I am confident that this goal can be achieved by concerted efforts to expedite production of this long-standing and respected series.

I am asking the Department of State's Historian to provide a sound, achievable schedule to accelerate the preparation and release of the published record. This will require careful streamlining of the content of the Foreign Relations volumes without any compromising of established standards for accuracy and integrity. I am also asking all bureaus in the Department and posts overseas to cooperate fully in accelerating review of historical documents without endangering national security information and the confidentiality of the diplomatic process.

The goal specified by the President requires full coordination of the efforts of the Department of State and other agencies. To launch this cooperative program I am asking Under Secretary Ronald Spiers to act for me in convening an interagency meeting in February. I ask that you send senior officials with decision making responsibility for the Foreign Relations work to this session.

The Honorable
William J. Casey,
Director of Central Intelligence.



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The President's directive provides a unique opportunity to ensure the publication of the nation's diplomatic records on a sound and sustainable basis, and to demonstrate a continuing commitment to the prompt and orderly disclosure of historical documentation. I know you will join me in achieving this objective.

Sincerely yours,

George P. Shultz

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Remarks To 18: Please take the lead in being the focal point with State on this matter. You should coord coordinate with relevant components re any State

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 12, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR

NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

THE ACTING ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES

THE PUBLIC PRINTER

SUBJECT:

Timely Publication of the Foreign Relations Series

The documentary publication Foreign Relations of the United States has presented the official record of American diplomacy since the presidency of Abraham Lincoln. This orderly and timely publication of the official diplomatic record is extremely important. The accurate understanding of the history of American diplomacy is necessary not only for our own citizens but also for our allies and adversaries abroad. And, while the continued public disclosure of diplomatic negotiations and undertakings must be balanced carefully against the needs of national security and the expectation of confidentiality in the diplomatic process, the historic record when published should be as complete as possible. The documentary publication series, Foreign Relations, is the proper vehicle for systematic official disclosure of the major documentation regarding American foreign policy in its proper historical context.

I therefore direct that the authoritative foreign affairs record be gathered and appropriately published thirty years after the event in a manner fully consistent with other directives on the release and publication of official information. In particular I ask that the Secretary of State take necessary measures to ensure the publication by 1990 of the foreign affairs volumes through 1960. The published record should reflect the activities of those federal agencies with responsibilities for the conduct of relations with foreign governments and international organizations.

To assist in this important task, I ask that each of you direct your agencies and staffs to cooperate with the Department of State in the collection, declassification review, and publication of these volumes. You should assure all proper access to DCI EXEC

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authoritative historical records to appropriately cleared official Department of State historians and that the declassification review for publication is accorded the necessary priority to achieve this 30-year publication timeframe.

I ask the Department of State to oversee the convening of periodic meetings of appropriate interagency representatives to review and improve cooperative procedures and plans to meet this 30-year publication timeframe. In addition, I direct that the Department of State make an annual status report on the progress made toward this goal.

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